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PATENT  
450100-03284

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : KEITA NAKAMATSU et al.  
Serial No. : 09/880,305  
For : INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND  
METHOD, AND RECORDING MEDIUM  
Filed : June 13, 2001  
Examiner : James A. Fletcher  
Art Unit : 2621

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

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July 18, 2006

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated June 30, 2006, wherein restriction  
was required as follows:

Group I claims 1-7, which the Examiner characterized as being directed to  
“receiving two data streams, separating the streams into audio and video, and detecting a time  
deviation;”

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Group II claims 8-10, which the Examiner characterized as being directed to  
“reading streams from a medium and connecting those streams;” and

Group III claims 11-14, which the Examiner characterized as being directed to  
“reading streams from a medium, separating the streams into audio and video, detecting a time  
deviation, and delaying one separated stream.”

While Applicants do not concur with the Examiner’s characterization of the  
claims or of their grouping (as an example, the Group I and Group III claims should be examined  
together), nevertheless, Applicants elect, **without traverse**, Group I claims 1-7 for further  
prosecution in the present application.

Applicants reserve their right to file one or more divisional applications to re-  
present the nonelected claims.

An early examination on the merits of the elected claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:



William S. Frommer  
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**FACSIMILE COVER LETTER**

**To:** Commissioner for Patents  
Examiner, James A. Fletcher

**Firm:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Art Unit 2621

**Facsimile:** (571) 273-8300

**From:** William S. Frommer

**Date:** July 18, 2006

**Re:** U.S. Patent Appln. Serial No. 09/880,305  
Sony Ref.: S01P0922US00  
Our Ref.: 450100-03284

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